

## VILLAGE OF BREWSTER

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

#### Minutes

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Brewster is holding a Regular Meeting on January 16, 2008 at Village Hall, 208 Main Street, Brewster, New York. The meeting is called to order at 7:35 P.M. by Mayor Schoenig

#### Attendees:

Mayor: James Schoenig  
Deputy Mayor and Trustee: Christine Piccini  
Trustees: William Banks, Yoshihiko Ito, Terri Stockburger  
Village Engineer:  
Village Counsel: Anthony Molé  
Clerk & Temporary Treasurer: Peter Hansen

#### Absent:

John Folchetti

#### Pledge to flag.

#### 1) Public Comment

- a) Mr. Ruchala distributed comments he gathered from some merchants on Main Street to the Board of Trustees regarding parking regulations. Mayor Schoenig requested time to review the document.
  - i) K.C. Anderson asked if parking changes were going to be implemented quickly and Trustee Ito indicated that there is no imminent action under consideration at this time. K.C. asked when the Village office would be moving to 50 Main St. Mayor Schoenig indicated it will probably be about mid-year. K.C. asked if more parking changes might be needed when that happened. K.C. offered to provide input into any considered changes as she has hosted numerous convocations during the last decade or so, has owned a business on Main Street, and is will to participate in this discussion.
  - ii) Denis Castelli praised K.C. Anderson's continued commitment to making Brewster a better place to live.
  - iii) Steve Priest thanked the Board members for their dedication and willingness to listen to the public. Mr. Priest presented a petition to the board from 31 merchants on parking rules. Mr. Priest went on to suggest an independent study be conducted on parking. Mr. Priest offers his cooperation and involvement.
  - iv) Victor Padilla informed the board that several landlords on Main Street can not give parking to their tenants, some of whom are physically challenged as well as working people who want to rest on the weekends.
  - v) Mayor Schoenig asked that Parking be put on the agenda for the February 6<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.
- b) Mr. Priest questioned the need for such strict enforcement of the snow ordinance. It used to be the police would track down parkers when the plows came. This gave the patrons of Main Street establishments the opportunity to move their cars before a summons was issued or towing initiated. Mr. Priest also stated that the ordinance prohibited parking on Main Street after 2 a.m. and some establishments stay open after 2 a.m. This law is counter productive to economic growth on Main Street.
  - i) Mayor Schoenig informed Mr. Priest that it is the car owner's responsibility to be aware of the parking rules in effect and that the Village Police should not be expected to go from establishment to establishment looking for car owners. Sometimes there are numerous violators and many cars must be towed. This takes time and the longer it takes the less effective street maintenance might be. Mayor Schoenig also

stated that we can not predict when storms will arrive and this ordinance is needed to maintain the safety of all residents by keeping the streets clear of snow and ice.

- c) Mr. Al Bonamici encourages the meter timing review. His experience has been that people take spots on Main Street and never leave, feeding the meter for the whole day. Mr. Bonamici suggests a parking slip be provided to put on dashboards to address the 2 hour free parking on Saturday rule.
  - d) Mr. Padilla states that some business proprietors are parking in front of their stores and using spaces that could be used by customers.
  - e) Trustee Ito stated that the parking rules were last discussed about five years ago.
  - f) Mr. Mike Santos stated that Main Street was a state road and counsel should investigate what actions are available to the Village. Village Attorney Molé said that he was 99% certain that Village signs were under Village pervue.
  - g) Mr. Bonamici brings up his water bill and says he has lived here for twelve years and never had to pay such exorbitant rates for water. Mr. Bonamici believes the Village is penalizing out of Village water customers unnecessarily. Mayor Schoenig said that metered rates inside and outside the Village are identical and if Mr. Bonamici had installed a meter when asked there would not be an issue to discuss. Mr. Bonamici claimed that he was never informed a meter was needed. Both the Mayor and Mr. Castelli stated that letter went out in 2004 informing all out of Village residents of the need for meters.
- 2) Parking Garage – Local Development Corporation (LDC) discussion
- a) K.C. Anderson asked what the duties and responsibilities were for LDC board members. Mr. Brian Howells sent in a description of the LDC functions and this was distributed tonight. Mr. Howells said that basically the LDC was a buffer between the Village and the Parking Garage owners. This would equate to a monitoring role.
- 3) Approval of Minutes
- a) December 19 2007 – Christine Piccini moved to approve the minutes as written, Terri Stockburger seconds, Approved 5-0
  - b) January 2, 2008 – Terri Stockburger moved to approve the minutes as written, Bill Banks seconds, Approved 5-0
- 4) Correspondence Received and Sent
- a) Bill Banks moves to accept Correspondence report, Christine Piccini seconds. Approved 5-0
- 5) Police Report – Chief Mancone
- a) Police Report postponed. Mr. Mancone was unable to attend.
  - b) Code Enforcement Report – Mr. Serino
    - i) Mr. Serino submits a plan for code enforcement this year. Mayor Schoenig complemented Mr. Serino on his work to date and the plan for the future. Mayor Schoenig moved to accept the Code Enforcement plan, Christine Piccini seconds, approved 5-0
    - ii) Mr. Serino will be preparing a report to be given to the NYS Department of State on code enforcement activities for 2007.
    - iii) Trustee Banks questioned the status of 899 Route 22. Mr. Serino stated that he had inspected the plumbing and that updated plans need to be submitted for consideration.
- 6) Planning Board Report – Mr. Kulo
- a) Mr. Kulo asks the Mayor to consider appointing Kathleen Meyerson as a member of the Planning Board. Ms. Meyerson has considerable education and exhibits a great understanding of the Village and Planning issues.

- b) Mayor Schoenig moves to appoint Ms. Meyerson to the Planning Board to fill one vacancy with term expiring \_\_\_\_\_?? – Trustee Banks seconds, Approved 5-0
- 7) Four Chaplains Proclamation – Mr. Ron Lipschitz requested the proclamation as commander of the American Legion in Southeast.
  - a) The Board requested more background on the proclamation, its purpose and relationship to local issues. Mr. Castelli offered his understanding of the purpose of the proclamation. Mayor Schoenig moved to approve the proclamation recognizing the Four Chaplains humanitarian sacrifice during World War II. Terri Stockburger seconds, roll call vote requested.
    - i) Schoenig – Aye
    - ii) Stockburger – Aye
    - iii) Ito – Aye
    - iv) Banks – No
    - v) Piccini – abstain.
- 8) Resolution to participate in the Putnam County Main Street Partnership Program
  - a) The board moved the resolution to the next meeting and discussed the priorities for our participation. The Board decided that the priorities are as follows:
    - i) #1 Priority: Niche Marketing
    - ii) #2 Priority: County-wide Signage
- 9) Temporary court space – Tabled.
- 10) Acting Village Justice – Richard W. Vercollone
  - a) Mayor Schoenig moved to appoint Richard W. Vercollone as Acting Village Justice, Trustee Banks seconds, approved 5-0
- 11) Cafeteria Plan
  - a) Terri Stockburger motions to accept the Cafeteria Plan as discussed specifically including the definition of “significant” to be a 25% change in premium either direction. Trustee Piccini seconds, Approved 5-0
- 12) NYC DEP Tax liability - Tabled
- 13) Vouchers Payable
  - a) Total of \$250,539.26 consisting of
    - i) H10 – 87,211.41
    - ii) G – 66,393.15
    - iii) F – 25,086.90
    - iv) A – 71,847.80
  - b) Mayor Schoenig motions to approve vouchers as written, Trustee Stockburger seconds, approved 5-0
- 14) New Business
  - a) Trustee Ito wants to have clarification as to whether the Village is complying with the law regarding audit of annual financial records. Village Attorney Molé states that the current process complies with the law in so far as our outside auditor – Citrin Cooperman – provides review and compilation of the annual report. Mr. Ito wants to know whether the Board of Trustees is complying with the law which states that the Board must audit the books or designate someone to audit the books; and what does that audit entail? Mr. Ito requests Mr. Bryan of Citrin Cooperman attend a Board meeting and provide some explanation as to the service he provides in relation to compliance with Village Law. Mr. Ito also says the notice stating the 2006 AUD should be put in the paper saying the report is available for inspection in the Village Office.

- b) Mayor Schoenig says he will request a state audit of village books.
- c) Towing of cars – Mayor Schoenig says we need to reestablish a procedure for people who had their cars towed. The Village office needs to be aware of the towing and location of the vehicle as well as any fines due. Mayor Schoenig indicated that the Police Department will fax a copy of the ticket to the Village Office when cars are towed.
- d) Parking meter coin pickup was discussed. Mayor Schoenig questions the need to pick up coins every week as many times meters are nearly empty especially on side streets. The Clerk asked that we review the process with the Parking Clerk as it is her job to account for parking revenues and armored car pickup.

15) Public Comment

- a) Steve Priest requested the board to reimburse him for expenses needed to keep his drains open because the road paving has partially blocked the drains and in winter the water collects and freezes in the drain line causing a backup on the roof. Mr. Priest says the board in 2004 addressed this by changing the drain so water could flow freely, but nothing was done. Mayor Schoenig stated he would have the highway superintendent and the Village Engineer conduct a review of conditions and provide a resolution to the issue.

16) Mayor Schoenig motions to go into executive session to discuss legal matters, Trustee Stockburger seconds. Approved 5-0

17) Mayor Schoenig motions to come out executive session and resume the regular meeting, Trustee Stockburger seconds. Approved 5-0

18) Mayor Schoenig motions to adjourn, Trustee Stockburger seconds. Approved 5-0

19) Adjourn